

everyday i fly, i see the way passengers pay little enough attention to the flight crew already. there is hardly any eye contact, even as the flight attendants are doing the safety demonstration in the forward part of the cabin (the only show in town these days, as most airlines no longer offer movie service on domestic flights). i, like many other flight attendants, realize that many people travel much more frequently than ever before, and therefore have seen this safety demo more times than they can remember, and pay little attention to it time and time again. we understand that, and we go along with this reasoning. however, adding another distracting circumstance into our cramped environment would not be appreciated.

the positive aspect of allowing our passengers to stay in touch with their contacts while in flight is heavily outweighed by downside of distracted patrons and the annoyance that other passengers will face. there will be no privacy for these telephone communications while sitting side-by-side with other passengers - many of whom are close enough (with the way the seat configurations are in commercial airliners) to count their seat-mate's eyelashes, if they so wished. and the person sitting next to the traveling communicator will have no way of removing his/her self away from the conversation. from personal experience, i know how frustratingly annoying it is to have the person directing across from me on a subway (similar seat distances and cramped quarters) speaking loudly enough to be heard by their colleague at the other end of the line. i now know all there is to know about my seatmate's daughter's medical condition - and how they will be requesting a second opinion from university hospital (a position with which i agreed after hearing how their family was treated at a county hospital). at least on the subway, i can get off the train, or walk into another compartment. on an airplane there is no where to go.

already our passengers complain about crying babies, lack of food service and cramped quarters on the aircraft. passengers may be in favour of this development, but when push comes to shove, we as the flight crew would not value one more distraction and possible annoying feature on our aircraft.

thank you for your time in reading this.